

Delaware Sea Level Rise Advisory Committee
DRAFT Meeting Summary
March 15, 2011

Materials Distributed:

Agenda

Draft summary of February meeting

Vulnerability Assessment and Workgroup Charge powerpoint presentation

List of Data collected and status

*all materials distributed will be available online:

<http://www.swc.dnrec.delaware.gov/coastal/Pages/DESLRAdvisoryCommittee.aspx>

Key Discussion Points:

Old Business

The draft summary of the February 15, 2011 meeting was approved.

In response to a question at the 2/15 Advisory Committee meeting, Sarah Cooksey reported that Dr. David Legates currently holds the role of State Climatologist.

Public Request to Record Meeting

Sarah Cooksey reported that a request had been made to the Attorney General Office by Delaware Coastal Programs to provide advisement for recording of meetings. The Attorney General's opinion should be available by mid-April. Until that time, the committee will continue to allow videotaping.

New Business

Vulnerability Assessments

Susan Love gave a presentation titled, "Vulnerability Assessment, Data Collection Status & March Workgroup Charge". She summarized data collection efforts, stressed that the vulnerability assessment utilizes existing or easily obtainable data sets, and laid out a timeline for completion of the adaptation plan. Susan concluded with instructions for the workgroups to examine the social/economic/environmental impact of inundated resources in the afternoon session.

Committee members asked a few clarifying questions on available data layers. There was a request for more detailed maps of the inundation scenarios/affected resources. Coastal Programs can produce the maps but are unable to do so at this time given staff and timing constraints. Susan offered that the data layers can be made available and that those members with GIS capabilities can access the information themselves.

One member asked whether or not the final report would address storm surge and changes to the 100 year flood plain. Another commented that changes to FEMA maps would be challenging given that as land forms change in response to sea level rise, the flood plain maps become less reliable, i.e. the maps are merely a snapshot in time and that conditions would not remain static. Susan clarified that the maps will focus on the agreed upon SLR scenarios but storm surge impacts and new flood plains would be addressed in the discussion section of the document.

Sarah reminded group that there is a process for minority opinions if consensus on adaptation strategies and recommendations was not obtainable.

Public Comment

John Nichols asked what (if any) legislation authorized the establishment of the advisory committee and requested that the committee consider recording all meetings and workgroup break-out sessions/meetings. Sarah Cooksey responded that she would look into Mr. Nichols' requests but that budgeting for professional videographer would be difficult given current budgetary constraints.

Adjournment

After the meeting was adjourned, members of the Committee met in thematic workgroups- Economy and Society, Infrastructure and Hazardous Materials, and Natural Resources- to further characterize issues identified during the last workgroup session that should be included in the Vulnerability Assessment.

Next Meeting: The next meeting of the Sea Level Rise Advisory Committee will be held in May. No Advisory Committee meeting in April. Workgroups will be meeting in April independently of the full Advisory Committee.

Attendees:

Tricia Arndt, DE Coastal Programs
Dave Carter, DE Coastal Programs
Richard Collins, Positive Growth Alliance
Sarah Cooksey, DE Coastal Programs
Mark Davis, DE Dept. of Agriculture
Barbara DeHaven, DE Economic Development Office
Morgan Ellis, DE Energy Office
Andrea Godfrey, Office of Management and Budget
Brenna Goggin, DE Nature Society
Constance Holland, DE Office of State Planning
Quinton Johnson, DE House of Representatives
Roger Jones, The Nature Conservancy
Karl Kalbacher, New Castle County
Michael Kirkpatrick, DE Dept. of Transportation
Don Knox, Del. Emergency Management Agency
Victor Lentonoff, Lewes Town Council

Susan Love, DE Coastal Programs
Bill Lucks, Delaware Realtor's Association
Robert McCleary, DE Dept. of Transportation
Rick Perkins, DE Div. of Public Health
Michael Petit de Mange, Kent County
Keith Rudy, Homebuilders Assoc. of DE
Bob Scarborough, DE Coastal Programs
Peggy Shultz, League of Women Voters
Chris Sommerfield, University of DE
John Taylor, DE Chamber of Commerce
Pam Thornburg, DE Farm Bureau
Chad Tolman, DE League of Women Voters
Kelly Valencik, DE Coastal Programs
John Laznik, University of DE
Hillary Stevens, University of DE
Mike Mahaffe, Dover Resident
Nancy Lawson, Pickering Beach resident
Jim Kirkbride, Wilmington resident
Robin Tyler, DNREC

John Nicols, Middletown resident
John Greir, Wilmington resident
Kevin Kalasz, Del. Natural Resources and
Environmental Control (DNREC)
Karen Bennett, DNREC
Sarah Keifer, Kent County Levy Court
Greg Williams, DNREC
Susan Guiteras, U.S. Fish and Wildlife
Michael Stroeh, U.S. Fish and Wildlife
Kurt Bertino, Kitts Hummock resident
Ishq Salem, Dover resident
William McGee, Dover resident